

## Remarks

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present U.S. Patent application as amended herein. No claims have been amended, added or canceled. Claims 24-42 have been withdrawn. Thus, claims 1-42 are pending.

## ELECTION/RESTRICTIONS

The Office Action identified three claimed inventions in the pending claims 1-42. Applicants hereby elect without traverse Claim Group 1, which includes claims 1-23. The claims of Claim Group 2 (claims 24-28) and of Claim Group 3 (claims 29-42) have been withdrawn.

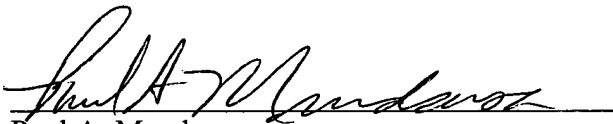
## CONCLUSION

The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone if such contact would further the examination of the present application. Please charge any shortages and credit any overcharges to our Deposit Account number 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,  
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Date:

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